Extension: Form N-17D-1, SEC File No. 270-231, OMB Control No. 3235-0229.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit the existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Section 17(d) (15 U.S.C. 80a–17(d)) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act") authorizes the Commission to adopt rules that protect funds and their security holders from overreaching by affiliated persons when the fund and the affiliated person participate in any joint enterprise or other joint arrangement or profit-sharing plan. Rule 17d-1 under the Act (17 CFR 270.17d-1) prohibits funds and their affiliated persons from participating in a joint enterprise, unless an application regarding the transaction has been filed with and approved by the Commission. Paragraph (d)(3) of the rule provides an exemption from this requirement for any loan or advance of credit to, or acquisition of securities or other property of, a small business concern, or any agreement to do any of the foregoing ("investments") made by a small business investment company ("SBIC") and an affiliated bank, provided that reports about the investments are made on forms the Commission may prescribe. Rule 17d-2 (17 CFR 270.17d-2) designates Form N-17D-1 (17 CFR 274.00) ("form") as the form for reports required by rule 17d-1(3)

SBICs and their affiliated banks use form N–17D–1 to report any contemporaneous investments in a small business concern. The form provides shareholders and persons seeking to make an informed decision about investing in an SBIC an opportunity to learn about transactions of the SBIC that have the potential for self dealing and other forms of overreaching by affiliated persons at the expense of shareholders.

Form N-17D-1 requires SBICs and their affiliated banks to report identifying information about the small business concern and the affiliated bank. The report must include, among other things, the SBIC's and affiliated bank's outstanding investments in the small business concern, the use of the proceeds of the investments made during the reporting period, any changes in the nature and amount of the affiliated bank's investment, the name of any affiliated person of the SBIC or the

affiliated bank (or any affiliated person of the affiliated person of the SBIC or the affiliated bank) who has any interest in the transactions, the basis of the affiliation, the nature of the interest, and the consideration the affiliated person has received or will receive.

Up to five SBICs may file the form in any year. 1 The Commission estimates the burden of filling out the form is approximately one hour per response and would likely be completed by an accountant or other professional. Based on past filings, the Commission estimates that no more than one SBIC is likely to use the form each year. Most of the information requested on the form should be readily available to the SBIC or the affiliated bank in records kept in the ordinary course of business, or with respect to the SBIC, pursuant to the recordkeeping requirements under the Act. Commission staff estimates that it should take approximately one hour for an accountant or other professional to complete the form.² The estimated total annual burden of filling out the form is 1 hour, at an estimated total annual cost of \$185.3 The Commission will not keep responses on Form N-17D-1 confidential.

The estimate of average burden hours is made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act, and is not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or

other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, VA 22312; or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: June 24, 2008.

Florence E. Harmon,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8–14985 Filed 7–1–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549–0213.

Extension: Form N-8b-4; SEC File No. 270-180; OMB Control No. 3235-0247.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit these existing collections of information to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") for extension and approval.

Form N-8b-4 (17 CFR 274.14) is the form used by face-amount certificate companies to comply with the filing and disclosure requirements imposed by section 8(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8(b)). Form N-8b-4 requires disclosure about the organization of a face-amount certificate company, its business and policies, its investment in securities, its certificates issued, the personnel and affiliated persons of the depositor, the distribution and redemption of securities, and financial statements. The Commission uses the information provided in the collection of information to determine compliance with section 8(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

Based on the Commission's industry statistics, the Commission estimates that there would be approximately 1 annual filing on Form N–8b–4. The Commission estimates that each registrant filing a Form N–8b–4 would

¹ As of May 22, 2008, five SBICs were registered with the Commission.

² This estimate of hours is based on past conversations with representatives of SBICs and accountants that have filed the form.

³Commission staff estimates that the annual burden would be incurred by a senior accountant with an average hourly wage rate of \$185 per hour. See Securities Industry Association and Financial Markets Association, Report on Management and Professional Earnings in the Securities Industry—2007 (2007), modified to account for an 1800-hour work year and multiplied by 5.35 to account for bonuses, firm size, employee benefits and overhead.

spend 171 hours in preparing and filing the Form and that the total hour burden for all Form N–8b–4 filings would be 171 hours. Estimates of the burden hours are made solely for the purposes of the PRA, and are not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of SEC rules and forms.

The information provided on Form N–8b–4 is mandatory. The information provided on Form N–8b–4 will not be kept confidential. The Commission may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, VA 22312; or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: June 24, 2008.

Florence E. Harmon,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8–14986 Filed 7–1–08; 8:45 am] **BILLING CODE 8010–01–P**

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–58020; File No. SR–ISE–2008–48]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Extend the Short Term Options Series Pilot Program

June 25, 2008.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") and Rule 19b—4 thereunder,²

notice is hereby given that on June 23, 2008, the International Securities Exchange, LLC ("Exchange" or "ISE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been substantially prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange has designated this proposal as non-controversial under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act 3 and Rule 19b–4(f)(6) thereunder,⁴ which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The ISE proposes to amend its rules to extend the Short Term Options Series Pilot Program ("Pilot Program") for an additional year. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (http://www.ise.com), at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

On July 12, 2005, the Commission approved the Pilot Program that allows ISE to list and trade options series that expire one week after being opened for trading ("Short Term Options Series").⁵ Under the terms of the Pilot Program, the Exchange can select up to five options classes on which Short Term Options Series may be opened on any

Short Term Options Series opening date. The Exchange also may list Short Term Options Series on any options class selected by other securities exchanges employing a similar pilot program under their respective rules.

The Pilot Program was subsequently extended 6 and the current Pilot Program is set to expire on July 12, 2008.7 The purpose of this proposed rule change is to extend the Pilot Program for an additional year. The Exchange believes that Short Term Options Series provide investors with a flexible and valuable tool to manage risk exposure, minimize capital outlays, and be more responsive to the timing of events affecting the securities underlying options contracts. Although ISE has not listed any Short Term Options Series during the Pilot Program, there has been investor interest in trading short term options at the Chicago Board Options Exchange. For competitive reasons and in order to have the ability to respond to customer interest in Short Term Options Series, the Exchange proposes to extend its Pilot Program.

In the original proposal to establish the Pilot Program, the Exchange stated that if it were to propose an extension or an expansion of the Pilot Program, the Exchange would submit, along with any filing proposing such amendments to the Pilot Program, a report ("Pilot Program Report") analyzing the Pilot Program, which would cover the entire period during which the Pilot Program was in effect. Since the Exchange has not listed any Short Term Options Series under the Pilot Program, there is no data available to compile such a report at this time. Therefore, the Exchange is not submitting a Pilot Program Report with this proposal.

Finally, the Exchange represents that it has the necessary systems capacity to support the listing of Short Term Options Series should it determine to do so in the future.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that short-term options series increase the variety of listed options available to investors and provide investors with a valuable tool to manage risk exposure, minimize capital outlays and be more responsive to the timing of events affecting the securities underlying options contracts. For these reasons, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

^{3 15} U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6).

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 52012 (July 12, 2005), 70 FR 41246 (July 18, 2005) (SR–ISE 2005–17).

⁶ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54117 (July 10, 2006), 71 FR 40564 (July 17, 2006) (SR–ISE 2006–37).

 $^{^7}$ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 56047 (July 11, 2007), 72 FR 39106 (July 17, 2007) (SR–ISE 2007–54).